

Important Information!

**Beginning in the spring of 2006,
the statewide assessment taken by 10th grade students
will be different than in past years.**

In order to comply with No Child Left Behind, the assessment taken by 10th graders, as with all other grades 3-9, must test grade-level skills.

The current High School Graduation Qualifying Exam (HSGQE) tests essential skills, not grade-level skills.

Thus, the 10th grade test has been expanded to include sufficient grade-level items to report grade-level proficiency in addition to reporting the HSGQE score. Students and parents will receive two scores: the Standards Based Assessment Score (SBA) and the HSGQE score.

The structure of the test will be such that some test items will be exclusive to the HSGQE score, some will be exclusive to the 10th grade SBA score, and some will serve both purposes. Students will not be able to readily identify which items are which.

The HSGQE continues to be the test that determines high school graduation eligibility, as that is a legislative requirement, not a No Child Left Behind requirement. The SBA score will be the score used in determining Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for the school.

11th and 12th grade students taking the HSGQE because they have not yet taken or passed the exam will only see the HSGQE items.

The Grade Level Expectations upon which these new test items are based can be found at <http://www.eed.state.ak.us/tls/assessment/GLEHome.html>.

